

**Town of Felton
Town Council Meeting
February 14, 2011
7:00pm**

Mayor Kelley called the Town Council of Felton Meeting to order at 7:00pm on Monday, February 14, 2011. Present at the meeting were:

Council Members: Mayor Kelley, Vice-Mayor Joanne Clendaniel, Joe Yapsuga Jr., Kevin Fletcher and Anthony Carroll.

Staff: Town Manager, Rebecca Greene; Chief of Police, Levi D. Brown; Town Clerk, Sarah Ferguson.

Public: None present

Citizen Concerns:

Councilman Yapsuga stated that during the snow someone drove a jeep around the storm water ponds and Rebecca responded that the ponds are now the responsibility of the Town so if they see anyone doing that again to call her.

Councilman Yapsuga said that he was concerned with the number of cars that were being broken into at Hidden Pond. Rebecca responded that all the cars that were broken into were left unlocked by the resident and that the Town will continue to try to get the word out about keeping car and house doors locked.

Mayor Kelley stated that he had noticed a lot of people walking around after dark and he will talk to Chief Brown.

2011 Election:

Mayor Kelley announced that there will be a Felton Town Council Election on Monday, March 7th from 12-7pm and that the candidates were Joseph Yapsuga, Joanne Clendaniel, Kevin Fletcher and Miguel Corti.

Board of Election:

Mayor Kelley presented the nominees for the Board of Election; Bea Harrington, Colleen Whitt, John Whidden and Shirley Hescoc.

Motion: Councilman Yapsuga made a motion to accept the proposed nominees for the Board of Election. Councilman Carroll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Police Report:

Chief Brown was busy with an arrest so Rebecca reviewed the Police Report for January 2011 (see attached). She stated that the tickets for January 2011 were:

Officer	2010	Regular 2011	SEU 2011	Hwy Saf 2011	Total 2011
9451	178	169	37	6	212
9452	190	162	35	5	202

9453	134	0	0	0	0
9454	91	57	45	16	118
9455	90	110	20	4	134
Total	683	498	137	31	666

Chief Brown completed with the arrest and asked if there were any questions. Councilwoman Clendaniel asked why there were so many warnings and not as many citations. Chief Brown stated that they have been using warnings as a way of finding DUIs.

Councilman Fletcher asked why patrol hours are up and citations are down and Chief Brown responded that they are down an officer from last year.

Chief Brown informed Council that the Police Dept has been using EIDE (Emergency Illegal Drug Enforcement) funds to have two officers working from 2-4am. Chief also stated that the Department has been awarded two defibrillators by the State of Delaware so each on duty officer will come in and pick up a defibrillator. He continued stating that he would like to get two more defibrillators so that there would be one in each vehicle.

Motion: Councilman Yapsuga made a motion to accept the Police Report. Councilman Carroll seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Budget Report:

Rebecca presented the January 2011 Budget Report to Council stating that this was the third month that income did not meet expenses. Councilman Yapsuga asked how bad that was and Rebecca said that historically these are our slowest months so she will wait until next month to see if income goes up.

Councilman Yapsuga asked if Office Swans vehicle has been repaired and Rebecca replied that it has been repaired.

Councilman Yapsuga stated that some places are asking that employees share some of the cost of health care and suggested that this was something that Council should keep in mind for the upcoming budget. Rebecca suggested that if Council were to ask employees to pay a portion of their health benefits they should also increase pay by that amount otherwise it would amount to a pay cut for employees. She also stated that before having employees pay a portion of their health benefits the Council could look at having them pay a portion of any additional family members that are on their health insurance.

Councilmember Yapsuga asked when the fourth Police Officer will be hired and Rebecca stated that Chief Brown will be looking for an officer in the next few months. Councilman Yapsuga suggested hiring a part-time officer instead of full-time and Rebecca responded that it would be up to Chief Brown but that part-time employees are generally less reliable.

Motion: Councilman Yapsuga made a motion to accept the Budget Report. Councilwoman Clendaniel seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Minutes:

Mayor Kelley presented the January 10, 2011 Town Council Meeting Minutes and asked if there were any corrections. There were none.

Motion: Councilman Fletcher made a motion to accept the January 10, 2011 Town Council Meeting Minutes. Councilman Yapsuga seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Fence at Odd Fellows Park:

Rebecca gave each member of Council a copy of the costs that the Odd Fellows gave to the Town. Council reviewed the costs and decided that additional money was not available in the budget. Councilman Fletcher asked that a letter be written to the Odd Fellows stating that Council would review their request during budget review.

Mayor Kelley stated that Council should make a decision now instead of going back to it over and over. That is just putting off the decision he continued. Councilman Yapsuga suggested that a letter be written to the Odd Fellows stating only that Town can not make any additional donation at this time.

Motion: Councilwoman Clendaniel made a motion that the Town decline the Odd Fellows request for an additional donation. Councilman Yapsuga seconded the motion. The motion passed with Councilman Carroll voting against; Councilman Yapsuga, Mayor Kelley, Councilman Fletcher and Councilwoman Clendaniel voting in favor.

Lake Forest Outstanding Invoice:

Rebecca stated that there is an invoice for \$227.50 that Lake Forest Central Elementary is disputing. She continued explaining that when the Public Works Dept cleans out the hydrant at the school because there is no blow off valve the pressure in the school's fire system drops so low that it signals the Fire Dept and they come out to the school.

Ralph (Public Works Director), Scott Adkisson (Town Engineer), Bob Hart (LF Building Supervisor) and the Felton Fire Comp met at the school to figure out how to prevent this from happening. It was eventually decided that before blowing off the hydrant Ralph would call Bob Hart and he would turn off the alarm and call the Fire Dept so that they will know that the alarm may go off.

When Bob Hart received the bill for Scott's time he called Rebecca and stated that he did not believe that the school should be responsible for the bill since they had not requested the meeting. Rebecca spoke to Scott Adkisson and he is willing to waive the fee. Councilman Yapsuga stated that the Town should ask for a credit on this invoice.

Motion: Councilman Yapsuga made a motion to abate the Lake Forest engineering invoice. Councilwoman Fletcher seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Rebecca informed Council that Independent Disposal Services would like to start the curbside recycling program in April and she inform then that it will not be mandatory until September. She does not know what the cost will be yet she is waiting for them to call back.

Motion: Councilwoman Clendaniel made a motion to adjourn Council Meeting. Councilman Yapsuga seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Sarah Ferguson, Town Clerk prepared these minutes.

Sarah Ferguson

Date